

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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13

ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1695

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INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS MUSCAT 1401

STATE FOR EB/OCA/CM; USDOC FOR CAGNE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP ECON XF IT GR XI

SUBJECT: NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICAN COMMERCIAL CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 288576

1. EMBASSY NOMINATES ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICER LOUIS WARREN (FSO-5) FOR TUNIS CONFERENCE.

2. IN REGARD TO CONFERENCE AGENDA AND WORKSHOP SESSIONS, WE RECOMMEND THAT PARTICULAR ATTENTION BE GIVEN TO ISRAELI BOYCOTT AND IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT U.S. ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION ON TRADE PROMOTION EFFORTS OF NEA POSTS. WE ALSO SUGGEST FOCUS ON WAYS OF IMPROVING EFFECTIVENESS OF TRADE OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM. SINCE WE BELIEVE THAT U.S. BUSINESSMEN ARE STILL LARGELY UNAWARE OF TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE GULF (AND PARTICULARLY IN OMAN), THE CONFERENCE SHOULD DISCUSS HOW TO GIVE BETTER PUBLICITY TO THE GENERAL BUSINESS CLIMATE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AS WELL AS HOW TO PROMULGATE SPECIFIC EXPORT LEADS IN AS TIMELY A MANNER AS POSSIBLE. EXPLOITATION OF SELECTED INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES SHOULD ALSO BE ON AGENDA.
WOLLE

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